



10/719,412

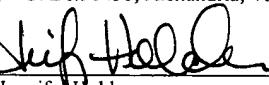
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	SUGITA et al.	Examiner:	Unknown
Serial No.:	10/719,412	Group Art Unit:	Unknown
Filed:	November 21, 2003	Docket No.:	10873.1333USW1
Title:	MAGNETORESISTIVE ELEMENT AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME, AS WELL AS MAGNETIC HEAD, MAGNETIC MEMORY AND MAGNETIC RECORDING DEVICE USING THE SAME		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 9, 2004.

By:   
Name: Jennifer Holden

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i), a copy of the U.S. patents and U.S. patent publications listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are not provided, as this application was filed after June 30, 2003. A copy of any foreign patent document or "Other Document" listed on the Form 1449 is enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2).

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a

reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

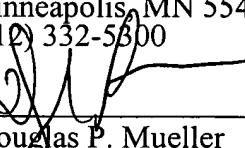
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Dated: February 9, 2004

By:   
Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/jh



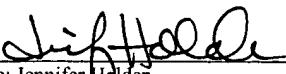


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 9, 2004.

By:   
Name: Jennifer Helden

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

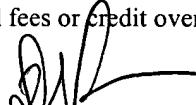
Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 14 References listed, 9 Non-U.S. enclosed
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
612.332.5300

By:   
Name: Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No.: 30,300  
DPM/jh

FORM 1449* <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)			Docket Number: 10873.1333USW1	Application Number: 10/719,412
			Applicant: SUGITA et al.	
			Filing Date: November 21, 2002	Group Art Unit: Unknown

*O I P E*  
FEB 12 2004 JC26  
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6,312,840	11.2001	Kumagai et al.			
	2001/0053053	12.2001	Saito et al.			
	6,169,303	01.2001	Anthony			
	2002/0047145	04.2002	Nickel			
	2002/0039264	04.2002	Ohsawa et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	2000-068569	03.2000	Japan			Abstract	
	2001-236613	08.2001	Japan			Abstract	
	2000-188435	07.2000	Japan			Abstract	
	2002-171012	06.2002	Japan			Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
		Koichiro INOMATA, MRAM Technology Progress and Prospect" Materials Integration Vol. 13, No. 12, P13-18, 2000 (Japanese only)				
		T.Miyazaki et al., "Giant Magnetic Tunneling Effect in Fe/Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> /Fe Junction", Journal of Magnetism and Magnetic Materials, 139 (1995) L231-L234				
		Ping Shang et al., "High-resolution electron microscopy study of tunneling junctions with AlN and Al <sub>0.9</sub> N barriers", Journal of Applied Physics, Vol. 89, No. 11, pp. 6874-6876, 1 June 2001				
		Yasunari SUGITA et al., "Tunneling Magnetoresistance Enhancement for Pt-Added Magnetic Tunnel Junctions", Japanese Journal of Applied Physics, Vol. 41, No. 10A, pp. L1072-1074, October 1, 2002				
		Nozomu MATSUOKAWA et al., "Thermally stable exchange-biased magnetic tunnel junctions over 400° C" Applied Physics Letter, Vol. 81, No. 25, pp. 4784-4786, December 16, 2002				

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	